

The tubers are long and spindle shaped. The preparation of them was conducted in a small hut. A large fly-wheel was turned by a negro, and drove, by means of a band, at a rapid rate, a small grinding wheel provided with iron cutting teeth. The cassava root, which had been peeled and washed by a negress, was reduced to a coarse meal by means of the grinding wheel. The meal was then put into a wooden trough, and a board was tightly pressed upon it by means of a lever, heavily weighted with stones. The cassava was thus left in the press for twelve hours, in order that the poisonous juice which it contains should be expressed. The meal was then taken out and dried on a smooth stone surface, beneath which a wood fire was burning.

The resulting chalky-white meal, when sifted, yields samples of three degrees of fineness. The finest, a white flour-like powder, is tapioca, *i.e.*, true, original tapioca, an imitation of which, made from potato starch, is commonly sold in England. The intermediate sample is used in starching clothes and in cooking; and the coarsest substance, which is coarser than oatmeal, and consists of irregularly-shaped dried chips of the roots, is called farinha, and is, as before described, commonly eaten with gravy at dinner, taking the place of bread, and forming a staple article of food.

Our host was well to do, having thrived best of all the emigrants who came out with him, and, having no family to provide for, talked of going home soon. An old German was staying in the house, an idler, whose real occupation was gardening, his father having been Imperial gardener, as he informed us with great pride. He had landed, more than twenty years before, at Rio, and had reached Bahia on foot. He was now travelling from estate to estate, and staying at each as long as he could, under pretence of doing up the garden, but, although he had been two months at the farm, the few square yards of garden were as yet untouched.

He had been too lazy to learn Portuguese, and understood very little. He did a little trade in the way of peddling books. He seemed, however, a favourite at the farm, and was well taken care of, tea being made as a special luxury for him, and he had many stories to tell, and quaint sayings, and had amusingly strong Prussian sympathies.

The farmer guided us to a large tract of primitive forest close by, which was extremely difficult to penetrate. Here I caught a curious bat (*Saccopteryx canina*). This bat has remarkable glandular pouches on the under sides of the wings, at the elbow-joints; these pouches are well developed only in the males, rudimentary in the females, and secrete a red-